

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 082164
ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 OES-06 L-03 SS-15 SP-02
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DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:ARDORNHEIM:CCH
APPROVED BY EA/IMS:EDWARD C. INGRAHAM
-----130045Z 045791 /61

R 122311Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 082164

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: ENRG, ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIA LNG FOR CALIFORNIA

1. FPC STAFF MEMBER REPORTS THAT FPC CHAIRMAN IS PRESS-
ING FOR EXPEDITIOUS HANDLING OF ALL CASES AND THAT
COMMISSION'S DECISION IN TRUNKLINE CASE IS NOW READY,
EXCEPT FOR SOME MINOR DETAILS, FOR ISSUANCE LATE THIS
WEEK, JUST TWO MONTHS AFTER ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S
DECISION. COPY WILL BE POUCHED EMBASSY WHEN RECEIVED.
STAFF MEMBER IS OPTIMISTIC THAT FPC DECISION IN PL/PGE
CASE CAN BE ISSUED BY EARLY OCTOBER. (PL/PGE MOTION TO
SECURE WAIVER OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION WAS
DENIED BY COMMISSION).

2. O'ROURKE OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS SHARES THIS
OPTIMISM RE FPC, BUT HE STILL HAS NO FEEL FOR HOW
DEVELOPMENTS IN CALIFORNIA WILL GO. O'ROURKE REPORTS
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RECEIPT OF A TELEX FROM HARYONO, EXPRESSING CONCERN
AT DELAYS IN SECURING VARIOUS U.S. APPROVALS IN VIEW
OF RAPIDLY RISING CONSTRUCTION COSTS. HARYONO SAID
GOI WAS WILLING EXTEND DEADLINE FOR APPROVALS SIX MONTHS
TO OCT 6. PL/PGE REPLY OF LAST WEEK ASKED FOR FOUR
MONTHS BEYOND THAT DATE (TO FEB 6) TO ALLOW TIME FOR
CALIFORNIA APPROVALS. NO HARYONO REPLY RECEIVED YET.

TODD AND O'ROURKE WOULD LIKE TO EXPLAIN SITUATION IN PERSON TO HARYONO AND, ASSUMING HIS AVAILABILITY, ARE THINKING IN TERMS OF A MAY VISIT.

3. O'ROURKE EXPLAINED THERE ARE NOW THREE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES IN CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY DEALING WITH SITING OF LNG TERMINALS. GOGGIN IS STILL TINKERING WITH HIS BILL TO MAKE IT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO GOVERNOR BROWN AND HAS HELD NO HEARINGS ON IT YET; GOGGIN'S BILL HOLDS OUT PROSPECT FOR TOO MUCH DELAY AND IS UNACCEPTABLE TO PL/PGE. SECOND BILL INTRODUCED BY DANNEMEYER (ORANGE COUNTY REPUBLICAN) IS ACCEPTABLE TO UTILITIES. THIRD BILL, SUPPORTED BY GOVERNOR AND LABOR GROUPS, HAS YET TO BE INTRODUCED; O'ROURKE BELIEVES IT WILL BE CLOSE TO DANNEMEYER'S.

4. FEA GIVES IMPRESSION IT HAS NO SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH PL/PGE'S APPLICATION TO IMPORT LPG ON INTERIM BASIS, BUT ITS DECISION IS STILL AWAITED, AS IT CONTINUES TO QUESTION PL/PGE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS.

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